

INFORMATION REPORT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Syria
SUBJECT Political Activities of Akram Haurani

CD NO.
DATE DISTR. 2 JUN 50
NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE 25X1A6a
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. 25X1X6

25X1A2g
SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

- 25X1X 1. [redacted] in April Syrian Minister of Defense Akram Haurani asked Lieutenant Colonel Adib Shishakli to prepare a coup against the Syrian Government to dispose of Finance Minister Ma'ruf Dawalibi and certain of the Populist Party leaders. Shishakli, thereupon, asked Lieutenant Colonel Amin Abu-Assaf, Commander of the First Brigade, to consult with other high-ranking army officers on the matter. Assaf did so, but reported to Shishakli that the consensus among the Army was that the country could not stand another coup at the moment.
- 25X1X [redacted] Shishakli then reported to Haurani that the Army does not consider a switch to put Haurani into power worth the risk of a coup.
- 25X1X 2. [redacted] when Haurani found that he could no longer get help from the Army, he went to President Hashim Atasi and insisted that a number (sic) of Ministers be asked to resign. [redacted] Haurani wants Dawalibi removed and Minister of Justice Naydi Atasi to resign.* 25X1X
- 25X1X 3. [redacted] Haurani also denounced to President Atasi certain political leaders, including Rushdi Kikhya. Haurani declared that political parties should be responsible for the actions of their leaders and Ministers, but stated that persons such as Kikhya and Dawalibi seemed to be responsible only to themselves and did as they pleased to the detriment of the country. Kikhya refuted Haurani's charges and refused to resign. Consequently, Haurani presented his resignation.
- 25X1X 4. The cabinet crisis, [redacted] will result merely in a reshuffling of the ministerial posts, because the Populists and Haurani must work together. The current Nationalist Party propaganda drive has thoroughly frightened them and they realize that if they split their forces now and lose control of the government, they may not be able to regain control, since it is reported that Haurani can no longer rely on the Army to keep himself in power.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NSRB		DISTRIBUTION													
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI															

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Document No.

No Change in Class.

☒ Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS S

Auth.: NR 10-2

Date: 2 JUN 1978

By: 24

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~SECRET~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A2g

-2-

25X1X

25X1A6a

* ~~Comment.~~ ~~Popular Party,~~ that Maurani wants Dawalibi removed and replaced by Dr. 'Abd-al-Wahab Hamad. ** ~~wishes to replace minister of interior Sami Kabbarah with Shakir al-Ass, member of the Populist Party Executive Committee.~~

25X1A6a

* ~~Comment.~~ Dr. 'Abd-al-Wahab Hamad is the brother of As'sad Hamad, reportedly a Communist Party member. In October 1948 a Syrian lawyer with Soviet contacts reported that Dr. Hamad circulated appeals for Soviet sympathy in Syria and assistance against the partition of Palestine and presented these signed appeals to Soviet authorities.

~~SECRET~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~